



County of San Luis Obispo General Services Agency

COUNTY PARKS

Janette D. Pell, Director

Curtis Black, Deputy Director

December 27, 2012

John McKenzie
County of San Luis Obispo
Planning and Building Department
976 Osos Street, Suite 200
San Luis Obispo Ca, 93408

RE: Conditional Use Permit and Environmental Impact Report for DRC2012-00035-PXP Expansion

Dear Mr. McKenzie,

This site is within the trail alignment of the Juan Bautista de Anza Historic Trail. Previous conditional use permits for this use required an offer of dedication for this trail alignment through the site, only to be accepted by the County upon termination of the oil field use. This current request for a conditional use permit will prolong the life and expand the oil field use on this site. Approval of the Conditional Use Permit will delay the acceptance and subsequent completion of the segment of the Juan Bautista de Anza Historic Trail between the cities of Pismo Beach and San Luis Obispo.

The Juan Bautista de Anza Historic Trail is a historic and international trail that marks the path of the Spanish exploration of Mexico, Arizona and California. It is a sought after recreation trail and a tourist destination that will bring tourist dollars to the County. This trail is designated in the Parks and Recreation Element, which is an Element of the San Luis Obispo County General Plan. It is also a connector trail that will provide a safe alternative transportation route that will connect the communities of Pismo Beach and San Luis Obispo. Once completed this trail segment will provide many public health and environmental benefits including reducing traffic congestion along an already congested section of Highway 101 between Pismo Beach and San Luis Obispo, better air quality and a healthier public to name a few.

It is clear to County Parks that a trail through the middle of an active oil drilling field is not ideal for either the applicant or the citizens of the County. However delaying this trail segment until the oil field use is completed, as previously conditioned, presents a loss of opportunity for the County and its citizens. With this in mind, County Parks requests that Conditional Use Permit findings and the Environmental Impact Report consider:



- 1) The impact of extending the use and duration of the oil field use on the completion of this segment of the Juan Bautista de Anza Historic Trail and the loss of community benefits this trail could bring to the area.
- 2) The proposal's potential inconsistency with the Parks and Recreation Element and some of the goals of the Land Use Element outlined in the Framework for Planning.
- 3) Review of the site and proposed project for opportunities to allow the requested expansion but not at the cost of further delaying the completion of this segment of the Juan Bautista de Anza Historic Trail.
- 4) A location of a permanent and/or temporary trail alignment within the area that can be completed and used while the oil field is in operation and that connects to the Juan Bautista de Anza Historic Trail alignment.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. I am available to assist the applicant, your department and/or consultant(s) on this matter. Please feel free to contact me at 805/781-4089 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Elizabeth Kavanaugh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Elizabeth Kavanaugh
Park and Trails Planner